

# Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"October is the fallen leaf, but  
it is also a wider horizon more  
clearly seen. It is the distant  
hills once more in sight, and  
the enduring constellations  
above them once again." ~  
Hal Borland*

*Friday, October 2, 2009*

The 2009 Suicide Prevention Summit, "Shoulder to Shoulder: No One Stands Alone," was held at the Correctional Training Institute this week. Over 240 staff from IDOC, CMS, and law enforcement agencies attended the summit.

Pendleton Juvenile held a ceremony for 12 students who completed either kitchen or retail basics for IN2WORK.

PREF hosted the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir for a concert. This opportunity was made possible by a Nina Mason Charitable Trust grant to benefit PREF, the Indianapolis Children's Choir, and the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir.

Miami Correctional gave 350 pounds of food, from its Recovery Month food drive, to the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

Indiana Women's Prison staff and Special Needs Workshop offenders made 40 flower pot holders for CTI.

The Southwest Youth Village of Knox County commended Wabash Valley staffers Sam Zollars and Scott McGavic for helping them prevent the escape of a disruptive youth offender from their van along U.S. 41.

Staff Development Emergency Operations conducted the Pre-service Academy and the Making A Change Academy at Madison for the new staff of the Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility. A total of 51 new staff attended the academies.

Franklin College Criminal Justice students toured the Reception-Diagnostic Center, learning about the intake process.

Branchville Correctional Facility is hosting an Old Fashioned Tent Revival. Over 275 offenders and 40 volunteers are participating in prayer, special music, singing, sermons, and personal testimony. The revival runs through Saturday.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation ceremony this week for 10 students.

Over 76 Wabash Valley staffers gave the "gift of life" this week, taking part in the 2009 IDOC Blood Drive. WVCF's Employment Appreciation Committee sponsored prize giveaways, a corn hole tourney, and a cook-out for the event.

Criminal Justice students from the Muncie Ivy Tech campus toured New Castle Correctional Facility this week.

Two students of the PREF Outdoor Power Equipment/Small Engine Repair class recently passed two EETC Technician certifications tests. One passed the very difficult electrical test and another passed the 4-stroke test.

Pendleton Juvenile hosted the Mighty Hands puppet troupe from Camby, IN. 60 students and staff attended the show.

Henryville Correctional Facility hosted the cognitive thinking program Freedom 101 last week and graduated 9 offenders.

Miami Correctional Facility named Officer Kenneth Melanson as Officer of the Month, Sgt. Angela Johnson as Supervisor of the Month, and Daniel Rich, Correctional Counselor, as Non-Custody Employee of the Month for August.

Pendleton's Shifting Gears program donated eleven bikes this week to veterans' organizations in Indianapolis.

Members of the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department toured the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility this week.

Pendleton Juvenile's Boy Scout Troop #1888 has collected 20,000 pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House this year.

NCCF held a staff recall and recognized Jo Carver and Christopher Boggs as Employees of the Month for October.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Northeast Juvenile this week, and 25 staff volunteered to donate.

CIF staff raised \$286.50 for the SECC with a fundraiser that included hot dogs, chips, and ice cream floats.

Pendleton Correctional Facility offenders purchased barbecued pork and chicken dinners for a fundraiser. Proceeds will support the Inside Out Dad program and purchase material to make baby blankets for the Wee Ones Nursery.

Northeast Juvenile staff participated in the Urban Run/Walk to promote literacy in Fort Wayne.

Plainfield's PLUS program donated just under 2 tons of fresh produce from its garden to local food pantries this year.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility held a golf scramble this week in support of the SECC and raised \$260.

*From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner*